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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. 720
336

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Moscow Oblast)

DATE DISTR. 19 May 1950

SUBJECT Plant No. 156 and Tsiam Plant of the Aerodynamic
Institute in Moscow

NO. OF PAGES 4

PLACE
ACQUIRED

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RARE

NO. OF ENCLS. 30
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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plant No 1561. Location:

See Annex 1

2. Plant History:

According to Soviet workers the plant was built in 1930. New buildings were not constructed during the reported period. However, almost all of the buildings were converted, machinery installed, hardening furnaces set up and the floors newly cemented. The fitting of the interior was not completed in March 1948. German PW engineers and draftsmen who worked in the bureau of the plant said that it was assigned to the Aerodynamic Institute.

3. Installations: (See Annex 2):

The plant covered a site of about 300x200 meters.

a. [REDACTED]

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(1) According to Soviet workers a special forge was to be installed in the northern section of the building, which was 25x20 meters. The floor of this section was cemented in the spring of 1947. Two electric hardening furnaces 2 meters square and about 1.8 to 2 meters high were under construction in March 1947. Cable ditches about 30 cm deep and covered with planks led from the furnaces through the workshop.

(2) Overhead rails were being fitted in the eastern section of the shop. These rails, in an oval, 8 to 9x2½ meters, were supported

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by 3-meter steel frames. Twenty-five mobile sheet steel carriers, about $\frac{1}{2}$ meter above the floor, were suspended from these rails. A gallery $1\frac{1}{2}$ meters wide, was built half-way up the walls of this room.

(3) The middle section of the workshop, 20 x 10 meters, housed the formery. The floor was covered with wooden and sand molds and castings, the castings being the same as those produced in Plant No. 45.

(4) A forge was being installed in the southern section which is 20 meters square. Two forge fires, one grinding machine, one anvil, three electric hardening furnaces 1.5 x 2 x 0.9 meters resting on 0.8-meter-high iron supports, and an oil-burning furnace 2 meters square and 2 meters high were observed in this room. In the middle of the eastern wall was a foundation, 2 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ meters and 1 meter deep. Castings were made and the moulds projected 80 cm above the surface.

b. The old forge (item 2) had been stripped of all equipment. New machinery was not installed.

c. The large workshop (item 3) was not entered by source. It is connected with the administration building by a 15-meter-long closed passage resting on steel frames.

d. Workshop 4 which source saw only once was divided into several departments. Fellow-PWs who were employed there told him that this building was equipped with lathes, milling and planing machines.

e. Old aircraft wings were stored in the open on this storage site (item 5). Several sheds filled with construction material were set up outside the fence.

f. Administration, item 6.

g. Post exchange, item 7.

Commissions Visiting the Plant:

Within the short period of two weeks source saw two or three air force officer-commissions, mostly majors and colonels.

Work Force:

Twenty-five hundred in the three shifts, according to a rough estimate. About 150 PWs were assigned to construction work per shift.

Production:

It had not yet started. According to source the plant was to be a test institute.

Power Supply:

No details are available.

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8. Security measures:

The plant was surrounded by a wooden fence and watch towers as shown in the Annex. Factory police were seen in the plant area.

Tsiam plant9. Location:

See Annex 1.

10. Historical data:

a. According to Soviet workers the plant was built between 1928 and 1930. Almost all the buildings were converted and improved after early 1948. The old partition walls were removed and replaced by new ones. The floors were cemented. 25X1X

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b. PWS who were employed here as engineers and draftsmen said that it was assigned to the Aerodynamic Institute in Moscow. This institute, allegedly, is the central agency of all the plants engaged in the development of aircraft engines. 25X1X

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c. Tsiam was the designation used for the work detail employed in this plant. A numerical designation of this object was not known.

11. Plant installations: (See Annex 3)

The plant covered a site of about 250x200 meters.

a. [redacted] 25X1X (item 1 of Annex 3). Partition walls were being erected on both stories of the northern wing which was 30x15 meters. In this way rooms 6x5 meters and 6x10 meters were formed. Several of these rooms were being set up as electric workshops as source learned from conversations. The rooms in this wing were guarded by factory police so that the interior could not be observed. The southern wing had only a ground floor. When entering this section of the building source was under the impression of being in the engine room of a ship or power plant. Two boilers about 6 to 7 meters long and 3 meters in diameter and mounted on concrete pedestals 4 meters high were observed in the middle of the room. Smaller boilers were installed on both sides of the two large ones. The boilers were interconnected by cables and pipes. Along the walls were tables with switch boards and electrical equipment.

b. The ground floor of the administration building (item 2 of Annex 3) was taken up by several engine rooms equipped with lathes. Offices, laboratories and drawing rooms were on the second and third floors.

c. Ten to twelve factory trucks were parked on the parking lot (item 3). Several wooden sheds were used as garages. 25X1X

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- e. Building 5 was under reconstruction.
- f. post exchange, item 6.
- g. Administration and workshops equipped with lathes, item 7.

12. Work force:

About 1,000 Soviets including 40 percent women in each of the three shifts.

One commission consisting of air force officers up to the rank of general, but mostly majors and colonels, was seen by source.

13. Security Measures:

The plant was surrounded by a board fence secured by barbed wire. The four watch towers were not occupied. Factory police were observed in the plant area.

Comment:

a. plant No 156 was known to be part of the Tsagi Aerodynamic Research Institute, while the Tsiam plant is a department of the Tsiam aircraft engine pilot plant, which sometimes was called electro-technical research Institute.

b. Since, however, no data on the purpose of the two plants were mentioned in this report, apart from their locations and a description of the plant installations, the credible statements of source cannot be commented upon.

- 3 Annexes:
- (1) Location sketch of the test plants of the Aerodynamic Institute in Moscow
 - (2) Layout sketch of plant 156
 - (3) Layout sketch of the Tsiam Plant.

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